

PATENT
Application No.: 10/713,880

III. Remarks

Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested in light of the above amendments and the following remarks. After the amendments detailed above, claims 1-6, 8, 9 and 20-22 have been canceled and claims 10 and 23-26 have been maintained in their previous form. Applicants appreciate the Examiner's allowance of claims 10 and 23-26.


Regarding the Examiner's comments on the PCT documents that were cited on the November 13, 2003 Information Disclosure Statement, Applicants respectfully direct the Examiner's attention to the 2/16/05 filing. In particular, this filing included a courtesy copy of the 11/13/03 IDS, which was amended to comply with 37 CFR 1.98(b)(4). Applicants enclose a courtesy copy of the amended IDS. Please refer to the highlighted portions of the IDS to find the corresponding issuing office, document number and publication date of the PCT documents.

Claims 1-6, 8-9 and 20-22 stand rejected under 35 USC 103 as being unpatentable over Reinecke (WO 02/069857) in view of Grim (U.S. Patent No. RE 34,883). Applicants have canceled the rejected claims and would like to proceed to issuance with claims 10 and 23-26.

An early formal notice of allowance of claims 10 and 23-26 is requested. No fees are believed due. However, Applicants authorize the Commissioner to charge any additional fees required to complete this filing to Account No. 13-0480, Attorney Docket No. 24128070.010030 US-2.

If the Examiner has any questions regarding this Amendment after Final Office Action or the Application in general, the Examiner is invited to contact the Applicants' attorney at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,



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